



# 2021 FIRST 100 DAYS REPORT







# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Governor's Foreword</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Priority 1: Healthcare</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Priority 2: Economy</b>	<b>4-8</b>
<b>Priority 3: Education</b>	<b>9-11</b>
<b>Priority 4: Infrastructure</b>	<b>12-17</b>
<b>Priority 5: Environment</b>	<b>18-20</b>
<b>Priority 6: Security</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Priority 7: Information Communication Technology</b>	<b>22-24</b>
<b>Priority 8: Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability</b>	<b>25-27</b>
<b>Priority 9: Youth and Women</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Priority 10: Disability and Aging Population</b>	<b>29-30</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>31</b>



# GOVERNOR'S FOREWORD

The month of April marks the Lemanu and Talauega Administration's first one hundred days in office. Assuming office has reaffirmed our commitment to serve with integrity and ensure that improving the lives of our entire community remains at the heart of our decision making.

From the onset of our administration we confronted unprecedented local and global challenges: a deadly pandemic, a drug and suicide epidemic, the growing threat of climate change, and fiscal uncertainty. We immediately set out to implement policies and executive decisions that would directly address these issues.

We are confident that the structural and fiscal reforms that we have put into place will pave the way for a government that is more responsive, equitable and transparent. Much has been accomplished in setting the foundation for the work ahead.

We must steady the course - let our faith in God be a beacon of hope and promise. Only TOGETHER as a collective community can we truly leave things better than we found them. Our challenge is to keep "leading the charge" within our respective communities — our churches, our schools, and our families.

Our cabinet members have remained vigilant in our shared vision and goals to fortify our community response and resources. This report highlights our achievements in key priority areas: Healthcare, Economy, Education, and Infrastructure. Your continued support will equip us for the economic, political, and environmental challenges ahead.

May God bless America and our beloved Territory of American Samoa.



LEMANU P. S. MAUGA  
Governor



## PRIORITY 1: HEALTHCARE



*“Undertaking this massive coordination within the first 30 days in office is a great challenge. I am thankful for the GAR’s courage and leadership during this repatriation effort.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Successful repatriation of approximately 600 residents since first repatriation flight in February from Hawaii
- Successful repatriation of approximately 80 residents from Samoa
- Continued public health service delivery operations inclusive of aggressive COVID-19 response efforts to minimize the threat of SARS CoV-2 virus reaching the territory’s borders
- Continuous application of the Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Plan through screening - increasing early detection and intervention.
- Fully operational PNegative Pressure COVID Lab Unit
- Trained staff to perform COVID-19 testing with PCR (ABI 7500 standard and ABI 7500 Fast)
- Secured 4 ABBOT ID NOW machines as well as certified staff to operate ABBOT ID NOW
- Purchase of new medical equipment: Autoclave maintenance and parts, Dialysis Portable Machines for COVID-19 ICU UNIT and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Machine



## PRIORITY 1: HEALTHCARE



*“In two months since taking office in January 2021, we have successfully completed two repatriation flights for returning residents from the U.S. mainland. We knew the risks and financial demands of such lengthy operations, but reuniting families and loved ones after a year was critical to the mental health and well-being of our people.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Vaccination of over 50% of eligible population
- Launching of the 988 Suicide Prevention Helpline
- Heightened Emergency response with expanded fleet for Emergency Medical Service
- Successful medevac of 6 emergency cases
- Execution of three Airbus330 medical charters to Honolulu, Hawaii
- Authorization of Personal Care Aide (PCA) services by CMS for Long Term Care Support Services (LTCSS) providers like Hope House
- CMS certification of Medicaid’s Emergency SPA 1135 Waiver Request providing expedited emergency enrollment for Hawai’i and local dialysis providers for quarantined passengers and direct reimbursements for COVID testing, vaccinations, medical services while in quarantine for all eligible residents



## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMY



*“Exercise and nutrition are key elements of any wellness program, and a healthy workforce is key towards supporting our economy and providing quality to our business community.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- ASG Wellness Program Initiative promoting health, fitness, and overall wellbeing
- Amendment of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration lifting restrictions affecting businesses and the church community: Extension of Business hours (6 AM - Midnight) and the extension of Church services to midnight (6 AM - Midnight)
- Repeal of the 2% wage tax after 13 years
- Vetoing of the ASGERF contribution bill calling for a 5% increase (\*2% members increase and 3% government increase in retirement contribution)
- DBAS' Affordable HUD Home Loan Lottery process fully realized
- Preparation is underway for American Samoa's first participation in a virtual summit by the US Trade Office with the goal of highlighting American Samoa to acquire foreign investors
- Comprehensive DMWR Fisheries Database per registration of all active alia fishing vessels in the Territory



## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMY



*"We need to remain vigilant about other issues affecting our islands, livelihood, economics, culture, and language."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Pilot of DBAS "Let's Go Fagoka" small business loan program promoting the local fishing industry
- Launching and training of local vendors by DMWR to sell fish using the Sell it Log it app created by the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council
- Implementation of two Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs grants: the Aunu'u Ecotourism Project and the Visitor Sites Project
- Initiation phase of the Tramway Memorial Park grant project is underway which will fund small improvements to the historic tramway site
- Super Alia Project funded by the EDA is well underway with Requests for Proposals
- The award of \$9.6 million in Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funds from the US Treasury to ASG
- Marketing of local vendors via the "Fale Lalaga" Talk Shows

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMY



*"This is a great way to build and promote agriculture advocacy. These local farmers will educate others on the importance of subsistence farming."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Securing of funds by the Department of Agriculture for the Mini Farm Fair for the month of March
- Launching of DBAS "Grow your Farmer's Market" small business loan program encouraging cultivation of land for farming by providing financial assistance to our farmers and improving agricultural development
- Grant funding awarded to the Department of Agriculture: Piggery Award \$121,159 and Hydroponics Award \$282,679
- Full grant allocation of \$997,792 received by the Community Services Block Grant
- Allocation of \$23 million in HUD funds to ASG for unmet needs from Tropical Storm Gita
- Allocation of \$1.4 million in CDBG-MIT (Mitigation) funds
- Submission of a total of 37 TAP and MAP applications worth close to \$13 million for consideration by OIA



## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMY



*"American Samoa aims to diversify its island economy through industry and workforce development opportunities with an emphasis in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion of the administration's first Congressional Hearing Testimony before the House Committee on Natural Resources oversight entitled "How the Biden Administration Build Back Better Plan can benefit the US Territories"
- The Vaitogi Turtle & Shark Lookout project is underway, the land use permit is in progress with plans to begin the procurement process
- Publication of the Civil Registration & Vital Statistics Country Profile in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the University of New South Wales in Australia (UNSW)
- Approval from HUD to draft a direct draw process for consideration (\*Huge accomplishment for the CDBG program as the CDBG has been on a reimbursement basis for funds for more than a decade.)
- Initiation of the CARES Act Tourism Initiative is underway
- Launching of the American Samoa Government IT Workforce Development Initiative that is funded by the Community Service Block Grant – CARES Act Program
- 20% increase (700+) in business licenses

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMY



*"For a territory that is geographically isolated and over two thousand miles away from the nearest state, closing our borders was a huge risk to our fragile economy."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Reconstitution of the following boards:
  - Alcohol Beverage Control Board
  - American Samoa Board of Cosmetology
  - Zoning Board
  - Personnel Advisory Board
  - Tax Exemption Board



## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION



*"We want to increase funding towards scholarships to increase college opportunities for students willing to pursue those careers that are in great need within our territory.*

*We need more engineers, doctors, accountants, licensed tradespeople, and other skilled workers."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Approval of student loan waiver for students who are currently employed in American Samoa for both ASG and the private sector
- Awarded \$102 million Educational Stabilization Funds II authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, to respond, prevent and prepare our schools for the pandemic.
- 100% of Local Education Authorities allocated funds have been approved for school improvements and technology upgrades to meet the needs of students
- Awarded \$264,826,365 million under the the American Rescue Plan to help reopen schools and allow classroom expansions to comply with social -distance requirements
- Approval of ASCC's Governance Policy Manual by the Board of Higher Education, scheduled for promulgation as required by law

## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION



*“The alignment of education, workforce and economy are equally important on all aspects to attract new investments with a skilled workforce.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Reinstatement and realignment of the ASDOE 5-year Territorial Education Plan
- Revamping the ASDOE’s Vision & Mission to include all education stakeholders in American Samoa
- Completed review with Human Resources, Budget Office, and the Treasury departments on the proposed ASDOE salary readjustments, realignment, and reclassification of all teachers, blue-collar workers, and administration/leadership positions.
- Implementation of the Afterschool Friendship Program for students ages 7- 13 by DYWA which includes building healthy relationships, improving reading and comprehension skills, promoting the Governor’s wellness initiative and instilling a spirit of camaraderie
- Coordination of Wetland Tour for science teachers from different high schools as part of the STEAM Symposium
- Hosting of Meal with a Mentor by the Finafinau Student Environmental Stewardship club and the Department of Commerce to provide career development exchange for high school students



## PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION



*“We are committed to working with teachers, administrators, alumni, parents, and students to identify every opportunity to support and improve our school system so that 100% of our children are ready for colleges and careers when they graduate high school. That is an ambitious goal, but it is not impossible.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Launching of the Mini Grant Program funded by the National Endowment of the Arts Association to support teachers for Grades K 5 - 12 who need financial assistance in carrying out educational art projects with their students
- Hosting of the first “Poetry Out Loud” Competition by OAC sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA)
- Completion of ASCC’s revision of its Participatory Governance Structural Manual which describes the principles of participatory governance structure for making decisions for the College
- Accreditation of ASCC under the purview of the Western Association of School and College – Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (WASC-ACCJC)
- Offering of ASCC courses online using the Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment (MOODLE) in preparation for COVID-19 Global Pandemic school closures
- Completion of ASCC’s Institutional Strategic Plan for 2021-2026

## ***PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE***



*"Building and strengthening our critical infrastructure is key in this day and age of COVID-19."*

### **KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- Ground Breaking of Ofu Airport Runway Reconstruction Project
- Design contract awarded for the renovation of Pago Pago International Airport's Terminal Building
- Design contract awarded for the construction of Pago Pago International Airport's Public Courtyard Area
- Design and procurement in progress for construction of Fitiuta Airport's New Passenger Facility
- Design in progress for construction of Pago Pago Airport Parking Lot Expansion
- Design in progress for Fendering Systems, Lighting Upgrade and Container Yard Reconstruction for Port of Pago Pago
- Received grant approval to bid \$1 million Fitiuta Airport Airfield Lighting Upgrade Construction Project
- Received grant approval to bid \$10 million Pago Pago International Airport Runway 5/23 Rehabilitation Stage 2A Project



## PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE



*"From healthcare, to transportation, information communication and technology, American Samoa recognizes the need to rebuild and strengthen our critical infrastructure for a sustainable economic future."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Procurement of New ARFF Truck
- USACE Permit in progress for Malaloa Wharf Extension Construction
- Completion of dredging at Faleasao Harbor
- Approval of financial reimbursements by the federal government to replenish the local funds used to advance payments to vendors
- Establishment of the ODAPM HazMit team as a non-voting Advisory member of the Project Notification and Review System (PNRS) Board
- Construction of Fono Building Project in progress
- Major road projects in progress include: Malaeloa Road Reconstruction Project and the Fonoti/Leapaga Road Project
- Finalization of the Vatia road improvement for award and contract
- Award of Taputimu Village / Leone High School Road Project (just recently awarded)



## PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE



*"We are committed to enhancing our people's quality of life in all sectors including our physical and environmental infrastructure that directly affect their well-being and safety."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion of the dry dock rehabilitation to service vessels in need of repair
- Nearly completed building to house the Office of the Administrative Law Judge
- Confirmed the closure of two non-compliance areas of the 2019 Financial Monitoring from USDHS/FEMA to ODAPM
- Construction of the multipurpose playground to serve the west side community is now underway (\* Project is a partnership between ASG, Leone village and the Catholic Diocese of American Samoa)
- The successful commission of three new 3.0MW QSK95 Cummins diesel generator sets by ASPA (\*Cummins gen-sets replace lower fuel efficient Caterpillar units and will increase overall fuel efficiency for the Tafuna Plant from 13KWh/ gal to 15KWh/ gallon; a 15% improvement)
- The installation of two 3.5MW GE generators by ASPA engineers and technicians



## PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE



*"I am pleased to know that the Build Back Better Plan aims to building a stronger economy that encourages manufacturing and sustainable infrastructure."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion of the replacement of the main 13.2KV Switchgear at Tafuna power plant (The ABB vacuum switchgear system replaces an obsolete Magna-blast circuit breaker system that was installed in 1972.)
- Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) of 20 MW Solar PV Project
- Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) of 42 MW Wind Generation
- Award of \$1,247,000 to ASPA by the US Department of the Interior for Solar PV on the island of Aunuu (\*Project includes the installation of 430 kW of Solar PV panels and 1,500 kWh of battery storage)
- A reduction of Non-revenue water (water loss) by 6%
- Completion of the drilling and construction of new groundwater wells at Iliili, Canco Hill and Tafuna
- Construction of four new tanks in Ofu, Olosega, Fitiuta and the Tramway in Utulei
- Completion of 20 miles of AC pipeline replacements, and ongoing AC replacements in the Territory

## PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE



*"Our critical infrastructure is dependent on our natural resources, our environment."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- New DOE Buildings & completed renovations

#### **Tutuila**

- Matatula Elementary School – new school relocated to a safe and secure location
- Olomoana eElementary School – new school facilities being built
- Coleman Elementary School – new gymnasium being built
- Manulele Tausala Elementary School – new gymnasium and bathrooms being built
- Lupelele Elementary School – new gymnasium and administration facility being built
- Pavaiai Elementary School – new school building being built
- Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School – new gymnasium and cafeteria/classrooms completed
- Alataua II Elementary School – new school building (classrooms, cafeteria, administration offices) being built
- Fagaitua High School – new school buildings being built
- Samoana High School – new administration building being built
- ECE center being built in the Lyons Park area
- ASDOE 3-story building is in the planning phase and will be built to accommodate all offices of the department



## PRIORITY 4: INFRASTRUCTURE



*"This assessment of Manu'a will give the Administration good data and metrics to assist in developing future plans for Manu'a."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- New DOE Buildings & completed renovations

#### **Manu'a**

- New Faleasao and Ta'u consolidated Elementary School
- New School lunch warehouse - MHS campus
- New Olosega Elementary - New School
- Transportation of one DOE school bus to service Olosega Elementary School
- Procurement and delivery of \$3 million worth of waterline project materials to ASPA
- Implementation of a new 20,000 gallons per day Reverse Osmosis machine for Aunu'u
- Construction for Eastside Villages Wastewater Collection system Package-5, Phase -2 from Aua to Onesosopo

## PRIORITY 5: ENVIRONMENT



*"We are all  
stewards of the  
environment."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Measurement of 29 colonies of large Porites around Ta'u Island (\* 26 colonies had a circumference greater than 10m.)
- Completion of 89 survey days of roadside creel monitoring on the Southern shorelines of Tutuila
- Completion of the first round of Shore-based creel data collection on Ta'u and Ofu Islands
- Completion of the Annual Coral Bleaching Monitoring in 6 sites around Tutuila
- Completion of the assessment of FAD locations around Tutuila and Manu'a to validate GPS coordinates for FADs that were lost in the past
- Fabricated 2 new Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) on island and received 3 new FADs constructed in New Zealand
- Assisted USFWS Rose Atoll Refuge with the capture and feather collection of 68 sooty terns on Rose Atoll for a worldwide ocean pollution study



## PRIORITY 5: ENVIRONMENT



*"It is our shared responsibility to protect and conserve it for future generations."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion of the first Boat-based Bat Survey in the Manu'a Islands (\*Survey circumvented the Manu'a Islands to identify potential bat roosting locations.)
- Development of a Stationary Air Pollution Permit Program to educate and assist eligible applicants on the permit application requirements and understand various emissions control technologies and methodologies for compliance with local and federal air quality standards
- Award of \$36,000 under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Grant for Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Facilities to The Safe Drinking Water Program (\*Funding allows AS-EPA to forge partnerships with the Department of Education and the Department of Human and Social Services to test the drinking water in schools and daycare facilities to determine if there is a lead exposure issue at these facilities.)
- A total of 65 inspections were conducted - 48 warning notices and 3 citations were issued at the culmination of the First 100 Days



## PRIORITY 5: ENVIRONMENT



*"We have seen over the years the drastic change in the landscape of our territory from one that was strewn with litter into a natural paradise that we all enjoy today. Slowly but surely, our peoples' mindsets have changed towards the issue of littering."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Removal of a total of 7,524 lbs. of trash from roadsides, streams and coastal areas during the three cleanups conducted since the beginning of this year
- Joint litter enforcement drive by EPA and DOH in the villages of Fagatogo and Nu'uuli
- Complete installation of three "No Dumping Signs" (Two in Vaitogi and one in Fagatogo)
- Completion of the Little Enforcement Refresher Training including EPA, DOH, and DMWR.
- First-ever Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training for Chinese Farmers was conducted by the EPA and the United States Ag Safe Department through a live webcam utilizing the Microsoft Team Network
- Submission of a stormwater control plan for the Faga'alu Priority Watershed (\* Significant accomplishment as it is a first step in addressing water quality issues and maintenance issues on site.)



## PRIORITY 6: SECURITY



*"The protection of our borders via air and sea are critical from criminals and all-hazards disasters."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion Certification and Recertification training of Airport Law Enforcement Officers to carry firearms
- Preparation is underway for launching the American Samoa's REAL ID Driver's License and ID Card
- Commencement of comprehensive agency rule reform project training
- Screening of more than 2,000 travel and proof of residency documents for residents seeking repatriation
- Implementation of the Immigration Border Management System
- Coordination and return of seven TCF inmates (Samoan citizens) back to Samoa
- Reconstitution of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council in an effort to reinstate the OJJDP program
- The Social Security Administration (SSA) has granted the American Samoa Department of Homeland Security access to the Social Security Production system

## PRIORITY 7: INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



*"Our current broadband capacity will enable us to maximize access to virtual learning opportunities, telehealth and other technological driven industries."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Successful completion of the first virtual Polynesian Leaders Group meeting hosted by American Samoa
- Completion of the IT Network engineering of the Executive Office Building & other ASG facilities
- Completion provision of ICT support for the previous 2 DOH pre-repatriation flights including but not limited to: Design, development, and delivery of new voIP PBX system, broadband and WiFi network for repatriation users in Quarantine
- Continuance provision of ICT support for COVID-19 Vaccine support, including but not limited to: Design, development, and delivery of an airport-wide (PPG) WiFi network including parking areas, for DOH's drive-in immunization program
- Continuance provision of ICT support for DOE Erate's Network (WAN) deployment, equipment, and large trunk capacity (10 Gbps) for COVID-19 distant learning scenarios
- Successful conversion of ASTCA payroll from manual to automated, time tracking and various employee-data management processes



## PRIORITY 7: INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

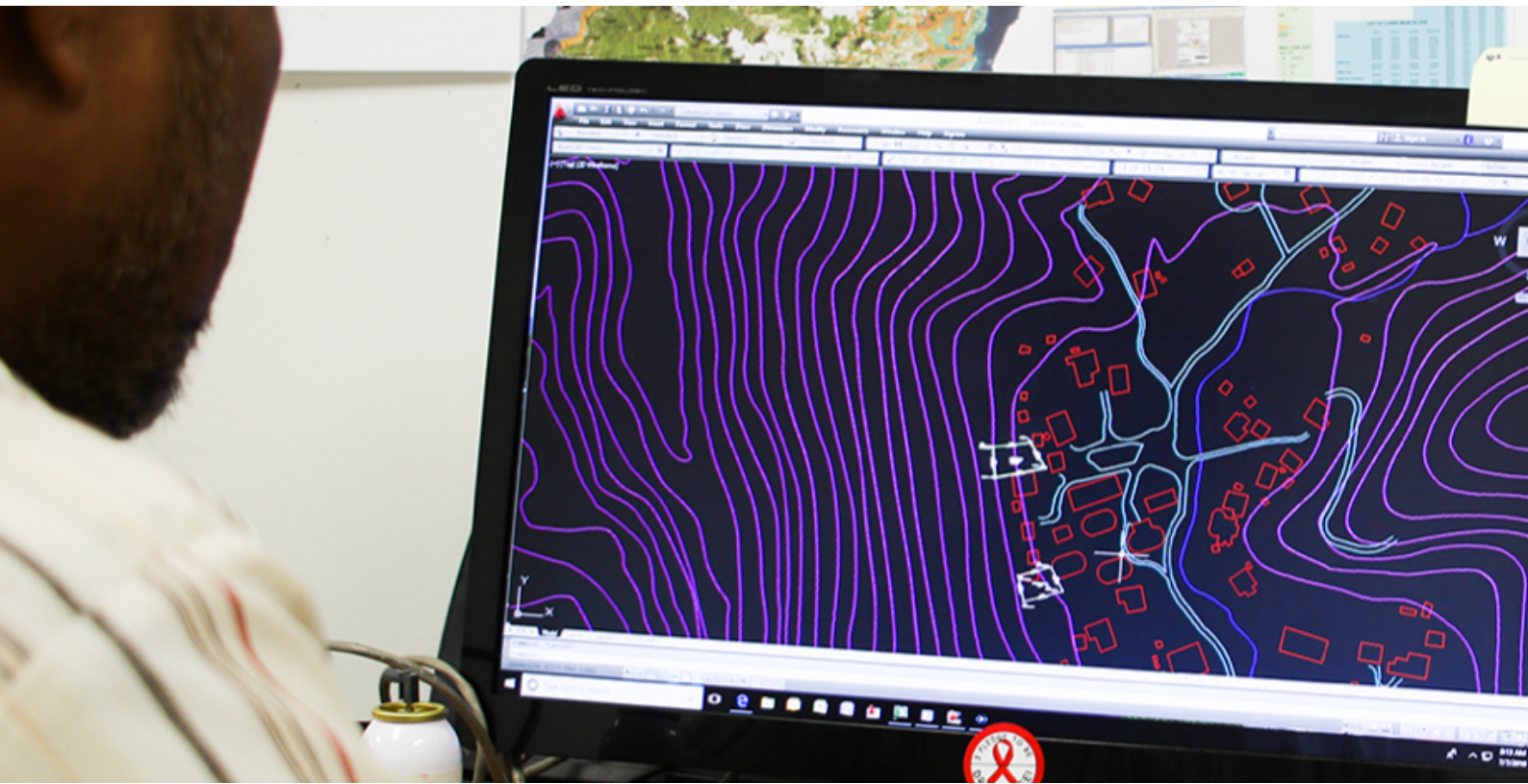


*“ASTCA is helping to usher American Samoa into a new digital era, and they will serve as a major contributor in standing up the digital e-commerce industry.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Development planning for the American Samoa Innovation & Technology Campus at the Tafuna Government Housing site, Stadium, and satellite towns is underway
- Initiation of expanded BPO/Broadband Business Incubator project by DOC to include two additional 28-seat facilities (for a total of 56 workstations); one site in Nu'uuli and another in Fagatogo
- Completion of the second Internet Work Academy Class (IWA). The goal of the IWA is to train a minimum of 200 people for internet related and remote jobs
- Launching of the Business Licensing Digitization initiative with the goal of digitizing the business licensing process, making it easier and more efficient for business owners and entrepreneurs to start their businesses (\*American Samoa Territorial Broadband Strategy (ASTBS) ongoing work to complete the ASTBS plan.)
- Designation of a Department of Commerce representative for American Samoa on the National Broadband Advisory group for States and Territories with the National Governors Association

## PRIORITY 7: INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



*“As we move forward, a great deal of focus will be placed on developing our ICT industry to generate jobs and economic opportunity for our territory. These training programs will support our efforts to build capacity in this critical industry, especially as we continue to deal with the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic.”*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Utilization of the latest technology in Geographic Information System (GIS) by EPA to capture all relevant information of each site that can be displayed on an electronic platform and is made available to the staff for their regulatory review
- Digitization of Land use permits
- Digitization of RPM Records
- Network Upgrade focusing on ASTCA to re-pull cabling infrastructure for Treasury, preparation for the VOIP Deployment kick-off and the arrival of new equipment



## PRIORITY 8: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

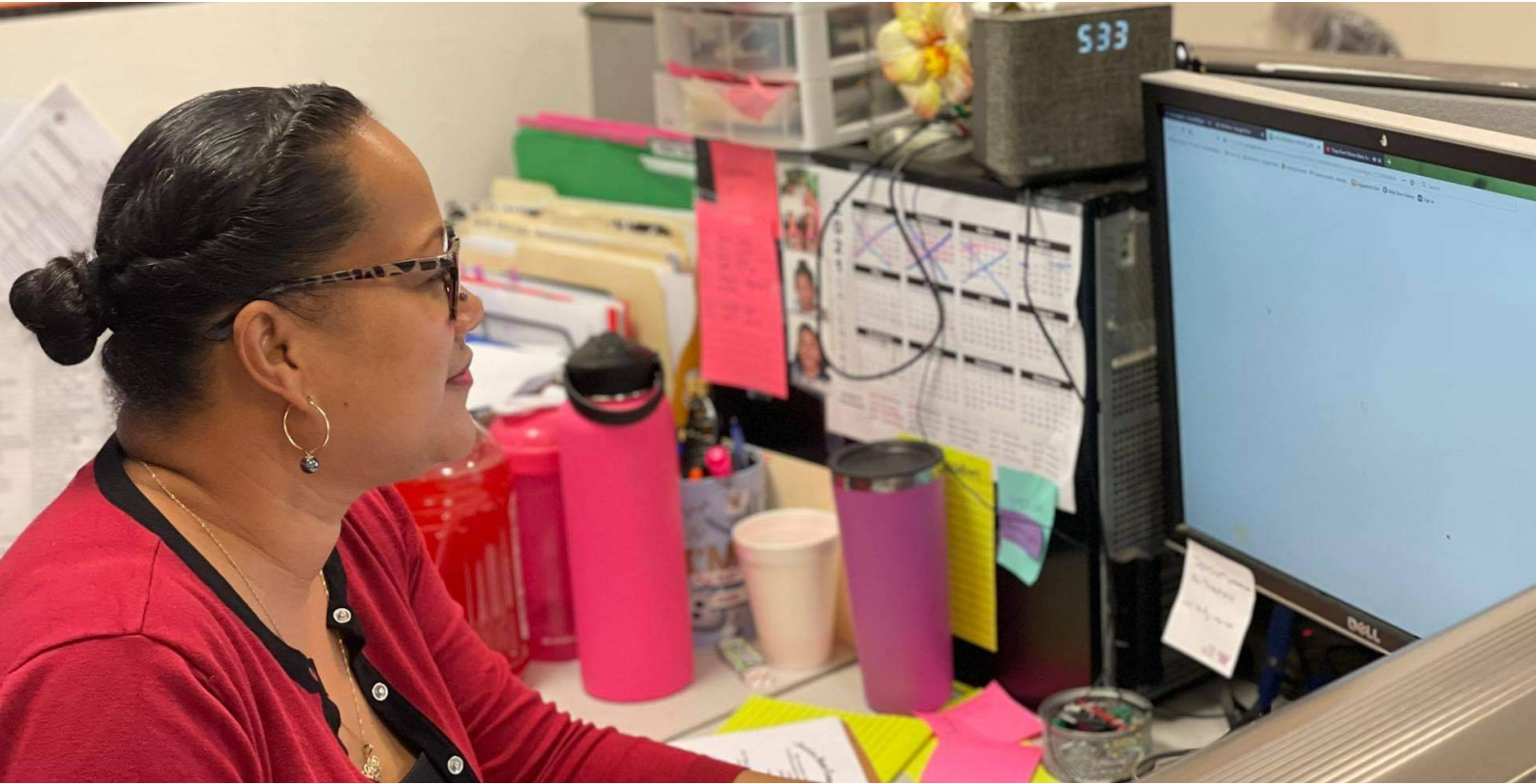


*"The rollback was the first phase in trying to right the ship."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Completion of DHR's revising Protocol in Clearance Process to avoid delays in employee pay
- Completion of rollback review for ASG personnel
- Completion of compiling the DHR's Revised and Proposed pay scale and submission to the Compliance Review Committee (CRC)
- Minimum Wage Project - Report Analysis and Proposal for Minimum wage raise submission to Compliance Review Committee (CRC)
- Raise the Bar Project - Report Analysis and Proposal for Degree Thresholds submission to Compliance Review Committee
- Implementation of 59 Rule for Family Quality Time
- Separation of Workmen Compensation Commission from DHR has uplifted a conflicting placement as WCC cannot be directly or indirectly be influenced by under the guise of such department
- Extension of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance division by the Department of Labor with additional eligibility criteria qualifying most workers affected by the COVID19 declarations

## PRIORITY 8: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY



*"We needed to efficiently and legally assess the personnel structure and ensure it aligned with the Administration's overall goal of eventually raising the pay for all ASG employees."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Financial system improvements put in place with respect to general ledger and grants management reviews
- Discontinuation of COVID-19 Task Force stipends
- OIG CRF Audit in progress: Treasury Finance continues to work with the Office of The Inspector General team assigned to audit for the \$35 million CRF
- DOA's capacity to collect revenue has increased by 21%
- Issued EIP payments of \$600 of over \$21.881 million to over 14,000 tax filers
- Disbursing timely tax return payments worth over \$8 million for over 5,743 tax filers
- Planning for first ever direct deposit of Economic Impact Payments (EIP) stimulus checks
- Payroll has completely transferred and transitioned into the Department of Treasury from Human Resources



**PRIORITY 8: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**



*"It is my belief that the alignment of education, workforce and economy are equally important on all aspects to attract new investments with a skilled workforce."*

**KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- Re-establishment of the Territorial Audit Office
- Multiple unannounced cash count audits performed by the Territorial Audit Office
- The Pacific Association of Supreme Auditors Institute – more than 20 Pacific Island Government Audit Offices (PASAI) has offered an experienced and qualified in-house Consultant for the TAO to assist with guidance and training especially with Performance and Compliance audits

## PRIORITY 9: YOUTH AND WOMEN



*"Investing in our sons and daughters is never without rewards, as they are the arrows we send to a time we do not see."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Implementation of developmental programs for youth and women by DYWA (Afterschool Friendship Program, Repatriation Virtual Services, Empowered Women Empower Women (EW2), Mother Daughter Date Night (MDD))
- WIOA Division: The three funding streams, Youth, Adult and Dislocated receives allocations from Department of Labor through programs OJT, WBL, WE, and Summer Youth Program. The allocation for these programs increased since inception. For the last 100 days, the Work Based Learning Program (WBL) has 60 Active participants with a projection of 400 participants for the next three months for the Summer Youth Program starting June and ending in August



## PRIORITY 10: DISABILITY AND AGING POPULATION



*"It is the commitment of the American Samoa Government to provide people with disabilities the opportunity to pursue meaningful and productive lives and thrive in a full inclusive society."*

### KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- Graduation of twenty senior citizens from the Computer Training for Beginners course offered by the Feleti Barstow Library (\*Skills learned will enhance TAOA's efforts through the SCSEP program to find full-time, unsubsidized employment for those seeking employment.)
- Inclusion of OPAD as a COVID-19 Task Force member on behalf of people with disabilities
- Inclusion of OPAD as an Advisory/Observatory member of the PNRS Board to ensure ADA compliance is strongly advocated during review of existing and new proposed projects
- The Tri-Agency for protecting the disabled community met with leaders of the Fono to discuss the adoption of the ADA Law in American Samoa through introduced legislation that will be proposed for their consideration
- A 72% completion of vaccinated senior citizens was made possible due to the collaborative work between the Territorial Administration On Aging (TAOA) and Public Health

**PRIORITY 10: DISABILITY AND AGING POPULATION**



*"We support programs to provide opportunities for senior citizens and people with disabilities the opportunities to receive care and other benefits to support equality and equity in the provision of services across the board."*

**KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- Implementation of the "No Wrong Door Initiative", a partnership between the TAOA and A.S. Community College to address the increased vulnerability of the senior citizen population - ensuring they have access to online telehealth services, eliminating threat of isolation
- Implementation of an Adult Protective Services to respond to COVID-19. (\*Program made possible by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act of 2021
- Revamping the Congregated Meal Program to be restaurant based - will no longer serve at church halls. It will provide not only an atmosphere conducive to congregating family and friends, but also a greater variety of food offerings to the TAOA participants



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

American Samoa Community College  
 American Medical Center Authority  
 American Samoa Power Authority  
 American Samoa Shipyard Authority  
 American Samoa Telecommunications Authority  
 American Samoa Visitors Bureau  
 Development Bank of American Samoa  
 Feleti Barstow Public Library  
 Administrative Services  
 Arts Council  
 Administrative Law Judge  
 Agriculture  
 Criminal Justice Planning Agency  
 Commerce  
 Education  
 Election Office  
 Environmental Protection Agency  
 Public Health  
 Homeland Security  
 Human & Social Services  
 Human Resources  
 Legal Affairs  
 Local Government (Samoan Affairs)  
 Marine & Wildlife Resources  
 Parks & Recreation  
 Program, Planning and Budget  
 Port Administration  
 Procurement  
 Property Management  
 Protection & Advocacy for the Disabled  
 Public Defender  
 Public Information  
 Public Safety  
 Public Works  
 Territorial Administration on Aging  
 Territorial Audit Office  
 Territorial Energy Office  
 Treasury  
 Youth & Women's Affairs  
 Historic Preservation  
 Medicaid  
 Disaster and Petroleum Management  
 Sports Complex  
 Veterans Affairs  
 Vocational Rehabilitation  
 Insurance Office  
 Governor's Office Hawaii  
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